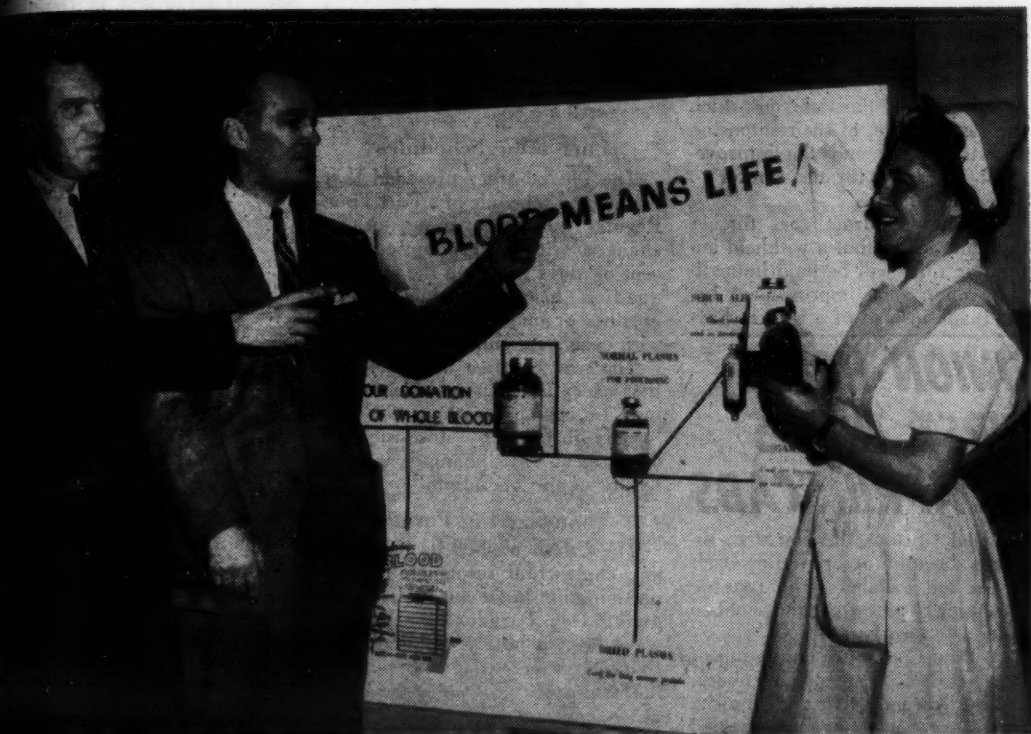


LOCAL I-S NEWS

for department store workers

4, NO. 20

JUNE 1, 1953



"Blood Means Life"—Receiving Department Supervisor Joseph Corio (left) and I-S member Clifford Sanders (right) tell Red Cross Nurse's Aide Mrs. Max Foxman. Both men have called on the Bank to help the lives of their children and were the first donors in the 1953 drive.

Statement of I-S Position On Department Store Union Merger

By President SAM KOVENETSKY

The recent announcement by CIO President Walter Reuther that the Distributive, Processing and Office Workers Union (District 14) has been accepted for membership in CIO has raised some questions in the minds of our members as to where Local I-S stands on this question. We can state our position quite simply. We believe in unity, because we believe that the closest kind of co-

operation is essential if we are to retain maximum effectiveness in the continuing fight to improve wages and working conditions.

At the direction of CIO President Walter Reuther the three Unions representing department store workers began to study the possibilities of achieving such unity. The union involved are the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers Union, CIO, our own

Local I-S—which is the cornerstone of the United Department Store Workers of America, and the Distributive, Processing and Office Workers of America which was just recently re-admitted to CIO.

Exploratory Talks

In our view these exploratory talks have made some progress towards clarifying the possibilities of merging these three organizations into a single effective unit. We do not believe, however, that the talks have progressed to the point where they justify immediate action. There are still some basic issues to be resolved.

We believe, for example, that if department store workers are to derive maximum benefit from the proposed merger they must be organized as autonomous locals in an autonomous joint board. We of Local I-S have adequate assurance of our own autonomy. But that is primarily because we already have full and democratic control over the policy making and financial affairs of our Union.

Unfortunately, the same is not true of many other local department store unions. In some cases they do not have any local treasury and their actions must be made to conform with the interests of their parent organizations.

Unity for a Purpose

We do not intend to tell these

tion of these provisions," said President Sam Kovenetsky, "is essential to a full and proper fight for their enforcement."

"We all got a very clear picture of what Macy's would like to do to us from what they said and tried to get out of the recent negotiations. Just because we beat back their union-busting attempts does not mean that they have given up the hope of finding other ways to take back what we forced them to give.

"The Shop Stewards are the eyes, ears and good right arm of the Union. It is they who must be the very first to recognize a violation of the contract and to fight against it. We will do everything

(Continued on page 2)

Steward Meeting Aims at Respect of Contract

Every Shop Steward owes it to himself and the people who elected him to be at the all-day conference on June 10.

The record of grievances processed since the victorious April 14 strike shows an almost consistent record of violations by Macy's. The fact that these attempts to ignore the agreement are stopped in our tracks only redoubles the importance of the get-together of the department leaders.

The Conference will be almost entirely devoted to a clause-by-clause analysis of the changes Macy's have done so much to make in the Local I-S agreement a pace-setter for all department store unions. "A full understanding of the significance and the applica-

Blood Bank Drive Nets 1012 Pints in Herald Square and Branches

The Local I-S, Macy's 1953 Blood Bank Drive turned in a magnificent total of 1,012 pints from Herald Square, Parkchester, Jamaica and Flatbush. A special drive at White Plains, not covered by the New York Red Cross blood program, will be planned in the near future.

From start to finish the whirlwind campaign (completed

in half the time of last year's) produced exclamations of pleasant surprise from Red Cross officials who say they have been encountering stiff resistance to their public appeals. Despite the fact that Local I-S President Sam Kovenetsky, Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and George Gurian and the Blood Bank Committee, all of whom had spark-plugged the drive for pledge sheet signatures, had set a higher goal than was reached, they expressed themselves as being well pleased with the members' response to the call.

First on line to give were Local I-S member Clifford Sanders, of the Luggage Department and Receiving Department Supervisor Joseph Corio. Both men have had to call on the Blood Bank to aid their children and both were grateful for the opportunity to re-invest in the security of their loved ones.

Said Cliff Sanders, "Words alone can't tell the debt of gratitude I owe the Blood Bank. Unless you've had to use it and found it ready and waiting to be of service you can't fully appreciate it. I can only hope that other parents will never have to suffer what we have, but I know that if they do they will thank God, as we do, for the help the Blood Bank gives."

Lines Move Fast

From the time of the first appointments at 9:45 A.M. on May 19, long lines of volunteers reported to the temporary donor center on the 8th Floor at Herald Square.

(Continued on page 3)

DEFENSE FUND REFUND CHECKS ON THE WAY

Close to 8,000 Defense Fund checks were mailed out between May 20 and 29, according to Local I-S President Sam Kovenetsky.

The Fund was voted on by the membership in October, 1952, and reached a total in excess of \$60,000, paid in by more than 92% of the Union's entire membership, by the time a new agreement was reached in April of this year.

The return of the Fund was begun despite the fact that some Defense Fund receipt books are still in the hands of Shop Stewards. Office Manager Deby Valencia warned that as a result of the outstanding books, "there will be some discrepancies in the refunds received by some members. If your check is not for the correct amount, bring the check and your receipts to the Union office. Do not call—we will not be able to help you on the telephone!"

Wrong Addresses

Another possible danger is that some members will not get their checks because they have neglected to notify the Union of a change of address. Miss Valencia advises that:

"If you have not received your refund check by June 15, be sure to report directly to the Union office. By that time the Post Office should have returned all those they were unable to deliver."

Writing on his own behalf and for the other officers of Local I-S, President Sam Kovenetsky thanked each member individually for his or her part in having "helped make our victory possible."

He also said that, "Despite the fact that negotiations, strike preparations and the strike itself, cost us many thousands of dollars, we feel honor bound to return this fund."

The costs included large sums for time lost, before the strike, by negotiators, Board members and Shop Stewards, large printing bills for leaflets and signs, and newspaper advertising and many other essential expenditures.

RAISE COMING!

The \$1.75 a week raise, fought for and won by the entire membership of Local I-S is about to be paid.

The increase will be in the pay envelopes on Wednesday, June 3, for the work week ending May 30.

Retroactive pay, for all Union members who had been in the store 30 days or more as of April 14, will be paid within a couple of weeks. Complicated bookkeeping is involved in computing additional pay, at the higher rate, for overtime put in during the period covered by retroactive pay. This is the reason given by company spokesmen for the delay in these lump sum payments.

BRANCH STORE NEWS

PARKCHESTER

This is Fay Mattimiro reporting and trying to fill the shoes of Margie Lyons, who is out ill. Talking about filling shoes — please get the news of doings in your department to me as soon as it happens. I'm in Children's Shoes. Come back little Margie. Your shoes are hard to fill . . . Our warmest welcome to Lillian Branca of P12 on her return after a short illness . . . Back from her honeymoon, Edith Rubino of P7 reports to Cosmetics. Now — tote that barge, lift that bale, etc. . . . Pauline DeJohn is out on the Coast awaiting the arrival of her daughter's baby. Nothing like a star in the family, Grandma . . . Bouquets to Betty Orlando of the Packing Unit on her forthcoming nuptials. Busy as a bee, she . . . Rita Saprano going on Retreat for three days expecting to lose 20 pounds. Is she kidding??? The candy will still be across from the Notions Department . . . Talk about being in the right spot. Helen Schreck of P8 is learning to drive. Hope the horn is good and loud! . . . Luck on your change, Naomi Coyne, from P8 to P7. Now you can really demonstrate your versatility. From Bonbons to Bon Mots . . . We produced a Branch Store record with 78 pints to the Blood Bank. No word from the other Branches yet — but we can all be very, very, very proud!!!



Fay Mattimiro

FLATBUSH

Hi, everybody . . . What was supposed to be a private picnic turned out to be quite an affair a couple of Sundays ago. A good time was had by all . . . So sorry to hear that Estelle Dick (Vault) is leaving. Best of everything for you — and don't forget to come back and see us . . . Margaret Von Holzen (F8) is in the Peck Memorial Hospital . . . Glad to hear that Etta Phillips' husband is improving . . . Sylvia Talal, Ilene Doyle and Helen Magrath still on the sick list. How about dropping them a card? . . . Our



Anne Bowen

sympathy is with Gerry Kochansky (F10) in her recent bereavement . . . More good work done by Hobby Club. Checks to Cancer Fund, Jewish Hospital and PAL . . . Viola Wahrman (F5) back to work again after her recent illness, looking just as chipper as ever . . . Recent anniversaries — Gertrude Greene, Eileen Cure and Blanche Dooner. May you enjoy as many more (and more) as you have already. Going to press before Blood Bank time, but from here it looks good . . . "Strange Things Are Happening" . . . When can I announce the wedding? I can't keep it a secret much longer . . . Word to the wise — Save your money and remember, it's better to give than to lend — and it costs about the same thing . . . So long for now.

WHITE PLAINS

This is your Administrator, Pat Favoino, trying to pinch-hit for Reporter Helen Irving, who is still out ill. Helen has now been out for more than three weeks. We all wish her a full and speedy recovery . . . Lots of people said it felt strange to be on the outside looking in on the New York Blood Bank drive. Every effort was made, but the New York Chapter of the Red Cross just can't come up here to Westchester. The officers of our Union and the Blood Bank Committee (which did a wonderful job) are going to do all they can to get a special drive for us here. When they do, there's no doubt that we'll have a terrific turnout. In the meanwhile, we are still as fully protected by the Bank as ever. We hope nobody will have to use it — but just in case, it's good to know it's there! . . . Theresa Gouaux (W3) the only scab we had here in White Plains, refused to appear when she was summoned before the Trial Committee in New York. She was tried in absentia. The verdict awaits Executive Board announcement . . . President Sam Kovenetsky was here on a tour of the store. He was pleased with what he saw and the people were all pleased to see him . . . Our Store Committee continues to do a terrific job!



Pat Favoino

JAMAICA

Very, very sorry to have to report that the following of our friends and co-workers are on the sick list. Myrtle Prior, of the Service Desk, Betty McGee of J10, Helen Despres of Kitchen Furniture and Albina Gilbert of J9. The report is that Helen is really seriously ill. It would be nice if all the people who like her were to send her cards. It sure would help to cheer her up . . . Back and fully recovered from recent illnesses are Betty Stanzioni of J7 and Francis Dichter of Children's Shoes. It's nice having you back with us gals — and now, keep well! . . . Talking about being health conscious — the people out here have shown that they know the value of a well-rounded program that includes the Health and Hospital Plan, the Medical Plan (doctor and specialist panel) and the Blood Bank. In the very first day that Shop Stewards began to circulate pledge sheets for the Blood Bank drive more than 70 — yes, sir S-E-V-E-N-T-Y members hurried to sign up and there were lots more behind them just waiting their turn. Based on the understanding of the importance of the Bank and the enthusiastic support of it, it looks as though we are going to beat own record. Anyhow, here's hoping!



Alfred Chiarella

Part III: Contract Changes

In the last two issues of the Local 1-S NEWS we presented the strike-won changes in the contract concerning Wages, Sick Leave, Pensions, Security, Health Plan, Commission payments and Supper Money. Also, Union Recognition, Recall Right, Red Circle Rates, Equal Pay for Women, Stims for the Branch Stores, Executives Returning to Staff Jobs and Jury Duty Pay.

In this issue we conclude the presentation of the changes written into the new agreement.

Automatics

The contract continues to recognize Macy's right to withhold an automatic wage increase if in their opinion the worker's job performance does not merit it. The company must still notify the worker and Local 1-S, at least 60 days in advance of the date on which the raise is due, of their intention to withhold it and the improvement necessary for the worker to be entitled to it.

The new contract goes further and guarantees that a withheld automatic raise will be paid immediately upon such improvement being made instead of a worker hav-

UNION HOLDS FIRST TRIALS OF APRIL SCABS

Local 1-S took the first steps towards disciplining or ridding itself of the ten members who ignored the April 14 picketline and scabbed on their co-workers.

A Trial Committee consisting of Ann Brown, Esther Greenberg, George Karandy, Harry Leibowitz and Mary Schlactman was named by the Executive Board to hear evidence in the cases of the accused.

Those called before the Committee on May 12 were: Adele Black, 114 Dept.; Carolyn Donovan, RMWW; Ceil Selkow, RMMW and Julia Kroll, also RMMW. All four appeared before the Committee, with the exception of Julia Kroll, who was subsequently tried in absentia.

The findings of the Trial Committee are its confidential property until they are submitted to the Executive Board, along with their recommendations. The Board, however, is not bound by the Committee's recommendations and may impose whatever penalty the majority may deem proper.

A second meeting of the Trial Committee was held on May 19, with four more workers who scabbed ordered to appear before it. They are: Jean Benson, MCU; Florence Grace, 116 Dept.; Christine Gray, 279 Dept.; and Theresa Gouaux of White Plains.

Administrator Bill Roschak, staff member assigned to the Trial Committee said, "Every person ordered to appear before the Committee is assured a full and fair hearing. They have the right to bring as many witnesses who are members of our Union as they please. We are only interested in getting as fair a judgment as we can, based on all the facts. Any accused member found guilty of the charges has the right to appeal the decision to the general membership. No one will suffer undue punishment."

**FREE
LEGAL AID CLINIC
at the
UNION OFFICE
Every Wednesday
5 to 7 P.M.**

ing to wait until his next regular job review.

Promotion Raises

The new contract guarantees a minimum raise of five cents an hour (\$2 a week for a 40-hour week) for any promotion from one straight salary job to another.

Telephone Order Board

For the time that the Telephone Order Board is open for "suggestion selling" (on which commission is paid) the operators are, under the new contract, guaranteed a list of at least twelve items for selling.

This newest guarantee is intended to provide maximum year-round earning opportunities and to close the door to any company attempts to limit those earnings by not offering goods for sale by "suggestion."

Part Time Schedules

The old contract provided that the normal schedule of a Part Time Regular Employee may not be changed without his consent except on days in which the store in question has a scheduled night opening or one day in connection with each semi-annual inventory.

The new contract adds the further exception that such schedules may be changed without consent, "where justified by store-wide or department-wide changes in the nature of the operation."

Thanksgiving Parade

The Union washed its hands of any contractual responsibility for participation in the annual Thanksgiving Day Parade. This has always been a purely voluntary activity be interested members, and it remains so.

Extended Sick Leave

The old contract provided that only the first 30 days of an excused leave of absence would be added to a worker's seniority except for leaves on which either Sick Leave or Workmen's Compensation Benefits were being paid.

The new contract provides that a worker gets full seniority credit for all time spent on leave during which Sick Leave Pay of Compensation is paid "plus the period of any leave of absence immediately following the expiration of benefits payable under Section 17.01 (Sick Leave) or of Workmen's Compensation, necessary by reason of ill health or injury and approved by the Employer's Medical Department."

This gain means the fullest protection of job rights for those seriously ill or injured workers whose recovery depends upon an extended leave, even beyond the 26 weeks covered by Sick Leave pay. In the past, loss of seniority during an extended leave of absence under such circumstances resulted in transfers and pay cuts. The ill

or disabled now find that real security replaces fear!

Transfer Security

A new clause, providing a period of adjustment security has been added to the contract. It reads:

"A Regular Employee who is re-assigned from full-time to part-time in a particular job classification, or vice versa, or is transferred from full-time to part-time, or vice versa, to an equal rated job classification at his request or for the convenience of the Employer, shall retain, and continue to accrue, seniority rights within the job classification held immediately prior to such reassignment or transfer for a period of three months thereafter in the event of a reduction in force during such three month period in the job classification to which he is assigned."

Super-Seniority

The new contract extends the protection of "super-seniority" to Executive Board members and their successors. It had been previously limited to Shop Stewards.

Now the agreement says that Stewards and Board members with three or more years of service are to enjoy "super-seniority" for purposes of layoffs or transfers to avoid layoffs. The company agrees to try to limit transfers to the area represented by the worker facing transfer. Macy's further agrees not to transfer a Shop Steward on a temporary basis unless all other workers capable of performing the other job have already been transferred.

This provision helps Local 1-S guarantee that the contract can be constantly and thoroughly policed. The responsibility is placed squarely on those elected by their co-workers for this precise purpose.

Conclusion

In concluding the summary of the most recent achievement of Local 1-S, President Sam Kovenetsky said:

"The contract fought for and won by the members and officers of our union stands as a beacon to all other workers in the department store industry. No other agreement provides such comprehensive guarantees as ours.

"The security provisions and the written assurances of decent working conditions — the wage schedule and Pension Plan — the Sick Leave clause and the Health Plan, are all the envy of most other workers, organized and unorganized alike.

"We can all take great pride in the part we have played in setting the pace for the advancement of the economic well-being of our entire membership and the tens of thousands of others who will be able to move ahead because we have paved the way."

Steward Meeting . . .

(Continued from page 1)
we can to fully equip them for this battle."

Praises Past Action

Vice President George Gurian expressed highest praise for the past conduct of the Shop Stewards and said, "Over the past several years the Shop Stewards have given up a valuable day off so that they could discuss and become the masters of our contracts. This year, too, the response to our call has been an outstanding example of the loyalty and devotion of the Stewards. More than 150 have already told us that they are giving their day off to the Union. We can

be confident that many more will send us the same good news before the June 5 deadline. This high percentage of participation is the best guarantee that Macy's will find no weak spots in our armor and will be forced to give full respect to the workers, the Union and the contract."

Other items to be included in the Conference agenda are a program arranged by the Local 1-S Anti-Discrimination Committee and a showing of motion pictures of the recent strike.

The Conference will be held at the Hotel Martinique, 32nd Street and Broadway, and will begin promptly at 9:30 A.M.

(Continued from page 1)
organizations
We w
just such inte
done to us a
guilty of doing
We do inter
taking an acti
ation of an or
represent a m
We do not
name covering
tions will satis
unity.
We believe
be for a pur
purpose must
of the workers
If and w
partment ste

MACY B
NLRB EL
FOR FRA

Macy's re
taken during
tions and ref
National Lab
election amo
workers in H
Branch Store
When Loca
the Monday-T
lies be includ
mit Macy's s
only to a L
which would
verdict of a m
Local 1-S i
such an elec
same Macy's
around the r
in front of a
ier they back
to consent to

Hearin
Macy's refu
tionals a free
is not the la
and Local 1-S
through a le
ings, after w
will decide w
election is to
hearing is sch
the offices of
Relations Bo
on Friday, Ju
Said Vice
stein, who r
at the prelim
the NLRB,
Macy's fears
can and will
workers once
Local 1-S. T
make it more
that every pe
works less
be approach
un. We alrea
signed applic
al cards are
office.

"To guaran
drive it is ne
partment ma
sign up all
ern. They'll
they are told
of working t
Local 1-S
by Attorney
the firm
Schwartz.

Published 1
LOCAL 1-S,
290 So
1st Vice Pr
Jerome Har
Entered as

I-S on Merger...

(Continued from page 1)
organizations how to conduct their affairs. We would resent and reject such interference if it were done to us and we will not be guilty of doing it to others.
We do intend, though, to avoid taking an active part in the formation of an organization that will represent a merger in name only. We do not believe that a single name covering separate organizations will satisfy the basic need for unity.
We believe that a merger must be for a purpose, and that that purpose must be the advancement of the workers involved.
If and when the local department store unions achieve

autonomy we will be ready to participate in the formation of a joint board on which each union will be respected and through which all the unions will be able to work together for their individual good and for their common good.
It is to this end that we have met and discussed the problems with the other unions involved. We will continue our efforts in this direction because we believe that the best interests of the Local I-S membership will be served, as well as the best interests of all others in our industry.

Obvious Advantages

Some of the advantages of such a merger are obvious. They would include the pooling of strength and know-how in bargaining with the bosses. They would also include a more effective team for organizing the unorganized department stores. These two reasons alone would amply justify the merger along the lines we have indicated.

The only remaining question is, "What happens if our proposals are not accepted by the other unions?"

Our answer is a simple one. At no time will we do anything to prevent or interfere with the formation of the proposed organization. If, after CIO has chartered such an organization, they direct us to affiliate ourselves with it—we will do just that, unless doing so would threaten our existence as a hard-hitting, democratic, autonomous union.

We will at all times jealously guard our independence as a vital part of our strength. We will never surrender that to anyone!

And while the officers of Local I-S have been quite properly filling their functions of leadership by participating in these exploratory talks and seeking to advance them along the best possible lines, the final decision does not rest with us. No change will be made without the full knowledge and approval of our executive board and our membership. We are proud of our democratic heritage and strength and will do nothing to weaken it!

Roll of Dishonor

To their everlasting dishonor, the following are those who crossed the picketlines of their co-workers.

They already feel the scorn and contempt of all those with whom they come in contact.

Adele A. Black—114 Dept.
Carolyn Donovan—RMWW
Ceil Selkow—RMMW
Julia Kroll—RMMW
Jean Benson—MCU
Florence Grace—116 Dept.
Christine Gray—279 Dept.
Katherine Barry, Tables
Elaine Wallenbergh, 17 Dept.
Theresa Gouaux, W3

Write ALL Grievances

LOCAL I-S NEWS

Published Twice Monthly except June, July, August, when published monthly by

LOCAL I-S, UNITED DEPARTMENT STORE WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO
290 Seventh Avenue New York 1, N. Y.

President: Sam Kovenetsky

1st Vice Pres.: Philip Hoffstein

2nd Vice Pres.: George Gurian

Editorial Board

Jerome Harte

Ann Brown

Editor: Dick Pastor

David Krakauer

Annual Subscription \$1

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office, New York, N. Y.



Mrs. John Purcell, Red Cross Director of Recruiting for the New York Regional Blood Program congratulates I-S Vice President Phil Hoffstein and the Blood Bank Committee for a job well done. From left to right are: Max Wald, John Malone, Jack Fox, Marion Cook, Phil Hoffstein and Mrs. Purcell.

Blood Bank Nets 1012 Pints...

(Continued from page 1)
Square. Excellent scheduling by Miss Marie Troup of the Macy Hospital kept the lines full, but moving swiftly through the day.

Branch Stores

The response to the call for volunteers at the Branch Stores was outstanding. As at Herald Square, the large enrollment was built around the men and women who participated in last year's drive. As a result of success of the 1952 campaign they were enthusiastic boosters this time around.

At Parkchester a total of 123 signed up and 78 were accepted as donors.

At Jamaica there were 130 enrollments and blood was taken from 64.

Flatbush had 114 volunteers, of whom 67 were accepted.

The difference between the number of pledges and the number of pints taken is explained by the fact that there are always some people unable to give at the time of the drive. These volunteers, however, left it to the highly competent Red Cross physicians to decide, and did not disqualify themselves.

How to Use Bank

Any member of Local I-S who needs blood for him or herself, for a husband or wife or for a child under 18 years of age need only call the Union office to secure whatever amount of blood is necessary.

The information that must be given the Union is 1) Name and home address of patient, 2) Name of attending physician, 3) Name and address of hospital, 4) Room number of patient, and 5) Amount of blood needed. After that, Local I-S does the rest.

There is absolutely no charge for blood obtained through the Bank, regardless of the amount. If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan, uses blood and is then billed for it by the hospital — notify the Union immediately and the Blood Bank will replace the amount the hospital used.

Fighting Polio

Much public information has

appeared recently concerning the use and usefulness of Gamma Globulin in the fight against polio.

"GG", derived from whole human blood, has already proved useful as a temporary protection against polio. A combined effort by the Red Cross and the March of Dimes has made quantities of Gamma Globulin available, through State and City Health Departments.

Upon the request of a physician "GG" will be released by Local Departments of Health, on a top priority basis, to children and pregnant women upon their exposure to polio. The amount of Gamma Globulin available is limited only by the amount of blood donated in the nationwide Red Cross drive.

Kovenetsky Thanks

President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents Hoffstein and Gurian extended their "most sincere thanks and deepest appreciation" to the active members of the Union's Blood Bank Committee and all other participants.

To Jack Fox (Luggage), Max Wald (Receiving), Marion Cook (Lamps), John Malone (Display) and Anthony LaSalvia (Jamaica), the officers said:

"This drive could not have been carried through to its successful conclusion without your unstinting work. We, and every member of our Union, owes you our most sincere thanks and deepest appreciation for your outstanding contribution to this most worthy cause. We are all grateful and proud of you."

To Macy President Wheelock Bingham President Kovenetsky expressed thanks for "the splendid cooperation given by yourself and your entire executive staff which contributed greatly to this fine cause from which we will all benefit."

It's Official!

Macy-inspired stories to the effect that July 4th would be the first of the regular Saturday closings and that therefore there would be no extra day off proved that the temper of the people was hotter than a firecracker.

No sooner was a vague and ambiguous Macy letter circulated than Local I-S demanded a regular day off in addition to the holiday and a clarification of Macy's position.

Now it's official. The week ending July 4th will have only four working days in it, and Macy's has said they will circulate another letter "clarifying" the situation.

Union Reverses Two New Macy 'Accidents'

Macy's has again been set back on its heels as "accidental" violations of the contract have been unearthed and vigorously prosecuted.

Frances Middleman, of 77 Department, has won restoration to her original job and back pay to compensate for lost earnings as a result of the Union's discovery of her incorrect transfer.

Irene Goldberg of 171 Department, has similarly been returned to her proper job with back pay to the date of Macy's "mistake".

Miss Middleman, whose seniority dates back to April, 1948, was transferred, to avoid being laid off, in January. At that time she took a \$2 a week pay cut. A second transfer a short while later knocked another \$2 out of her salary envelope.

At that point Mary Schlactman, Floor Committee member of the 4th Floor, notified Administrator Mabel Murther that something was very wrong. She reported the presence of a worker who had a 1946 service date, but who had spent two years in an exempt status, and had therefore lost those two years of Union seniority.

Miss Murther's investigation confirmed these facts and established that Frances Middleman

had, therefore, been the wrong person to transfer. As a result, Frances gets back the job which is rightfully hers, and all the pay she would have gotten if she had never been transferred in the first place.

Wrong Number

Irene Goldberg, also transferred in January, took a weekly pay loss of \$1.40, but retained recall rights to her original job. When the job re-opened Macy's called the wrong number and disconnected Irene.

Not until Shop Steward Evelyn Grant notified Administrator Murther did the wheel start rolling. A firm and speedy challenge forced Macy's to acknowledge the "error," put Irene back in her proper job and pay her an extra \$1.40 a week for all the time she should have been there.

Said Mabel Murther, "The outstanding thing about both these cases is not that Macy's violated the contract, but that in neither of them was a grievance written and processed. Unless every Shop Steward is always on the lookout for incidents such as these, workers may suffer needless loss of earnings. A written grievance is the best guarantee that Macy's will not get away with a thing!"

1200 Hearn's Workers Fired, Rest On Strike; I-S Plans Speedy Aid

With 1,200 workers already fired in the company's drive for a "self-service" operation the remaining 800, all members of Local 1250, Distributive, Processing and Office Workers (District 65) struck Hearn's Department Stores in Manhattan and the Bronx.

NO HELP, NO DOLLS— HOBBY CLUB GIVES UP

The "Hobby Club," organized by members of Local 1-S in Brooklyn shortly after the Flatbush store opened, has closed its books and sent a \$50 contribution to the Union Welfare Fund.

The club's main activity was an annual fund-raising cake sale, the proceeds of which were used to purchase dolls which the group then dressed. At Christmas time the dolls were distributed among needy children in various orphanages in the city. Toys, other than dolls, were distributed among the boys.

The group disbanded because too few people were participating. Officers of the Hobby Club were: Beatrice Langer, President, Lilly Kaplan, Vice President and Joan Leonard, Treasurer.

President Sam Kovenetsky said, "The strike at Hearn's is of vital concern to every department store worker and union in the country. We will do all we can to assist. We are prepared to place our resources at their disposal and to actively join the fight."

The District 65 position was explained by a spokesman who said, "The company has lost millions of dollars over the last several years, but we want them to stay in business. We are willing to go along with their self-service and their layoffs. We are now down to a last ditch approach. We are fighting for respect for seniority; for adequate severance pay — even though the contract does not provide for it; for maintenance of present pay for those workers kept on the job; and finally, for a contract."

Triggering the strike was the "last straw" firing of the Local 1250 Shop Chairman, who had 21 years of store service.

The union is not seeking a wage increase or other contractual improvements. They say they are striking "for the right to arbitrate outstanding differences." As we go to press the picketline remains solid and the situation unchanged.



Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and George Gurian paced the recent Cancer Drive and were rated the top collectors on 34th Street.

1-S Cash Counts In 1953 Can-Can Cancer Campaign

While President Sam Kovenetsky was out of town enjoying a well-earned rest Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and George Gurian raised the banner of the New York Cancer Committee and set a fund raising example for all to follow.

In the three-day collection campaign the officers, administrators

and interested members of Local 1-S almost filled one hundred cans, for a grand total of \$747.26, which was promptly turned over to the grateful Cancer Committee.

The Committee, which helps finance cancer research and care for the stricken, had previously been denied permission to make an interior solicitation in Macy's. That fact made the turnout of members of Local 1-S doubly pleasing, necessary and successful.

Write ALL Grievances

QUESTION WHY SURPRISE PAY

Although Barbara Cook of the Department started out only intending to learn why Macy's had deducted two weeks from her seniority time she got both an answer and a totally unexpected week's seniority pay.

Barbara was sent home by the hospital late in January. When she reported back to work in February she was told to go to the Records Office. There she learned that there had been a reduction of force in her Department and that she was transferred to avoid a layoff.

Barbara declined both jobs Macy's offered her, preferring to wait until her department's budget was increased and she could return to it. Two weeks later she came back to the job and discovered the two weeks had been deducted from her seniority.

After confirming that it was an error, she brought her question to the Union office and her administrator, Mabel Murthor.

Mabel took the case to Macy's Labor Relations Department and gave them all the room they needed to explain that Barbara had quit and therefore properly lost the time she was out. After Macy's had stated the facts so clearly that they couldn't wriggle out of them Mabel demanded to know why, in that case, Barbara had not received the severance pay the contract entitled her to.

A close look at the contract Macy's admitted the error. A very happy Barbara had both the answer she was looking for and a week's pay she never even dreamed of!

PERSONALS

FOR SALE—Kitchen set, maple couch, lamps, tables, mirrors, bookcase, venetian blinds, pictures. Phone NE 8-2886 evenings.

FOR SALE—Ten piece walnut dining room set, table-top gas range, machinist and carpenter tools, dress forms, roll Kraft paper, 150 pounds miscellaneous house furnishings. All excellent condition. Phone TE 8-3286 evenings.

FOR SALE—Automatic gas hot water heater, 8 year guarantee. Reasonable. Phone AP 7-6131 evenings.

Personal ads for the Local 1-S NEWS must be received at the Union office by the 1st or 15th day of each month. Ads received on the 1st will appear in the issue dated the 15th. Those received on the 15th will appear in the issue dated the 1st of the following month. This is offered as a service to members of Local 1-S and there is no charge for personal ads.

MEDICAL PLAN—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request. **BLOOD BANK**—if you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

at Macy's Flatbush for their Get Well wishes and gifts. All were most kind for their thoughtfulness. The many cards certainly cheered me.

Hoping to see you all again in a few weeks, I remain,

Gratefully yours,
Helen Magrath

Whaddya Read?

We've been very flattered by some of the nice things that have been said about our Local 1-S NEWS. We have occasionally asked you what you thought about your paper—but you, the average reader, have not answered.

Because we are anxious to please you we would like to know what you like and what you dislike.

What type of article do you always look for and read from start to finish?

What type of article do you dislike and try to avoid?

What kind of articles are you interested in that you don't find at all, or find rarely in the 1-S NEWS?

We just can't give you the kind of paper you want to have and will enjoy reading unless you give us an idea of what you're looking for. Needless to say, your Union newspaper is a mighty important thing. It has two main purposes. (1) To keep you informed of all developments of interest and importance in the day-to-day efforts to preserve Union-won gains and to improve on them, and (2) by acquainting you with the facts to enable you to be a more effective

fighter for the things you need—both on the economic and political fronts.

We don't know how well or how poorly we've been doing so far, because you haven't taken the time to tell us.

Won't you sit down and write us that note today? We're really anxious to hear from YOU.

HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store.

If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan, enters the hospital you MUST call on the Union office for claim forms immediately on entering or as soon as possible thereafter.

Protect yourself—protect your family—protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

KIND THOUGHT

I would like to say how much I appreciated your kind thought in sending me a nice gift and get-well card when I was in the hospital. And as far as the Health Plan—mere words don't seem adequate enough to say what I think of it, so I will just say it is wonderful and a God-send to anyone who has to use it.

Once again, many thanks and the best of luck and success to Local 1-S.

Sincerely,
Joseph Bauman, Supply Dept.

SOMEONE TO TURN TO

It is nice to know that in time of need you have someone to turn to. During my daughter's recent illness I requested five pints of blood for her from the Blood Bank. Without any hesitation I was told that she could have all she needed. You will never know what a moral and monetary uplift it gave me.

My heartfelt thanks to Miss Tepper, Administrator Tom Raffaele and all the members who were willing to help me—but most of all, the Blood Bank.

Sincerely,
Antonio Monitto, 159 Dept.

BLOOD

I am glad to take this opportunity for thanking the Union for the blood which they supplied when I was operated on recently. It is a wonderful thing to know that this service is available when it is needed most.

I want you to know that I appreciate all you have done for me. I am,

Sincerely yours,
Alice Fries, BCR

Write ALL Grievances

1953

books.
range
courses
the T
Reason
Union
the la
5th wi
offer
ersons

ctor,
p —
4210
ueat.
CALL